Excitonic magnetism in models and materials Jan Kuneš





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Excitonic insulator



"The first point that we must make about this model is that the predicted continuous increase in the number of free electrons and holes from the value zero is not possible. An electron and a positive hole will attract each other ... the electron and hole will always, when in the state of lowest energy, form pairs (excitons) ..."

Neville Mott, 1961



Knox, 1963 Keldysh and Kopaev, 1965 des Cloizeaux, 1965 Kozlov and Maksimov, 1966 Jerome, Rice, Kohn 1967 Halperin and Rice, 1968

weak coupling BCS like theories

Spin-state transition

Spin-state transition is a rapid change of magnitude or disappearance of the fluctuating local moment.



- compounds containing Mn, Fe, Co
- high pressures (~ 10 GPa) Earth mantle or diamond anvil cell



• as a function of temperature, strain, ... LaCoO₃

Outline

• Two-band Hubbard model

Strong-coupling limit (hard-core bosons) Dynamical mean-field theory (fermions) Exotic properties - spin texture

• Real materials (Pr_xR_{1-x})_yCa_{1-y}CoO₃ (PCCO) and Sr₂YIrO₆ Excitonic condensation with orbital degeneracy Density functional theory (LDA+U)

Excitonic condensation in Hubbard model

Two-band Hubbard model at n=2 (half filling)

$$\begin{split} H_{\rm t} &= \frac{\Delta}{2} \sum_{i,\sigma} \left(n_{i\sigma}^a - n_{i\sigma}^b \right) + \sum_{i,j,\sigma} \left(t_a a_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} a_{j\sigma} + t_b b_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} b_{j\sigma} \right) \\ &+ \sum_{\langle ij \rangle, \sigma} \left(V_1 a_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} b_{j\sigma} + V_2 b_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} a_{j\sigma} + c.c. \right) \\ H_{\rm int}^{\rm dd} &= U \sum_i \left(n_{i\uparrow}^a n_{i\downarrow}^a + n_{i\uparrow}^b n_{i\downarrow}^b \right) + (U - 2J) \sum_{i,\sigma} n_{i\sigma}^a n_{i-\sigma}^b \\ &+ (U - 3J) \sum_{i\sigma} n_{i\sigma}^a n_{i\sigma}^b \\ H_{\rm int}' &= J \sum_{i\sigma} a_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} b_{i-\sigma}^{\dagger} a_{i-\sigma} b_{i\sigma} + J' \sum_i \left(a_{i\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{i\downarrow}^{\dagger} b_{i\downarrow} b_{i\uparrow} + c.c. \right). \end{split}$$



John Hubbard



Proximity to spin-state crossover

Two-band Hubbard model at n=2 (half filling)

$$H_{t} = \frac{\Delta}{2} \sum_{i,\sigma} \left(n_{i\sigma}^{a} - n_{i\sigma}^{b} \right) + \sum_{i,j,\sigma} \left(t_{a} a_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} a_{j\sigma} + t_{b} b_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} b_{j\sigma} \right)$$
$$+ \sum_{\langle ij \rangle,\sigma} \left(V_{1} a_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} b_{j\sigma} + V_{2} b_{i\sigma}^{\dagger} a_{j\sigma} + c.c. \right)$$
$$H_{int}^{dd} = U \sum \left(n_{i\uparrow}^{a} n_{i\downarrow}^{a} + n_{i\uparrow}^{b} n_{i\downarrow}^{b} \right) + (U - 2J)$$



 $\gamma_{i-\sigma}^{b}$

Competition of Hund's coupling J and crystal-field Δ

We are interested in $E_{LS} \simeq E_{HS}$



Strong-coupling limit (hard-core bosons)



Strong coupling theory

Balents 2000 Rademaker et al. 2012-2014 bilayer Heisenberg model



Strong coupling theory

• Decouple it from the high-energy states (Schrieffer-Wolff transformation)



Effective Hamiltonian:

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \varepsilon \sum_{i} n_{i} + K_{\perp} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left(\mathbf{d}_{i}^{\dagger} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{j} + H.c. \right) + K_{\parallel} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} n_{i}n_{j} + K_{0} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j} + K_{1} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left(\mathbf{d}_{i}^{\dagger} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{j}^{\dagger} + H.c. \right) + \dots$$

Strong coupling t

d-bosons are mobile !



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excitations in the normal state



d-occupancy: $\langle n \rangle = 0$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \underbrace{\varepsilon}_{i} n_{i} + K_{\perp} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left(\mathbf{d}_{i}^{\dagger} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{j} + H.c. \right) + K_{\parallel} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} n_{i} n_{j} + K_{0} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j}$$



excitations of the condensate



 $H_{\text{eff}} = \varepsilon \sum_{i} n_{i} + \underbrace{K_{\perp}}_{\langle ij \rangle} \left(\mathbf{d}_{i}^{\dagger} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{j} + H.c. \right) + K_{\parallel} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} n_{i}n_{j} + K_{0} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j}$



Augustinský and Kuneš, 2014

Bose-Einstein condensate of d-bosons



d-occupancy: $0 < \langle n \rangle < 1$

$\begin{aligned} & \textbf{Mean-field theory} \\ \hline H_{\text{eff}} = \varepsilon \sum_{i} n_i + K_{\perp} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left(\mathbf{d}_i^{\dagger} \cdot \mathbf{d}_j + H.c. \right) + \underbrace{K_{\parallel}}_{\langle ij \rangle} \sum_{n_i n_j + K_0} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j \end{aligned}$



Augustinský and Kuneš, 2014

Checkerboard spin-state order



Order parameter: $\langle n_i - n \rangle$

d-occupancy: $\langle n \rangle = 1/2$

 $H_{\text{eff}} = \varepsilon \sum_{i} n_{i} + K_{\perp} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left(\mathbf{d}_{i}^{\dagger} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{j} + H.c. \right) + K_{\parallel} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} n_{i} n_{j} + \underbrace{K_{0}}_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j}$



Heisenberg anti-ferromagnet



d-occupancy: $\langle n \rangle = 1$

What is exciton condensate?

Statistical mixture vs quantum superposition

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Statistical mixture vs quantum superposition

Normal state - statistical mixture of
$$|\cdots\rangle$$
 and $|\diamond\rangle$
 $\langle d_s \rangle = 0$

LS ground state + thermally populated HS states

$$\langle a_{\sigma}^{\dagger}b_{-\sigma}\rangle = 0$$

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Statistical mixture vs quantum superposition

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LS ground state + thermally populated HS states

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Condensate - superposition
$$\alpha | \cdots \rangle + \beta | \checkmark \rangle$$

 $\langle d_s \rangle \neq 0$
hybridised LS and HS states $\alpha | \checkmark \rangle + \beta | \checkmark \rangle$
 $\langle a_{\sigma}^{\dagger} b_{-\sigma} \rangle \neq 0$

Condensate breaks symmetries of the Hamiltonian, e.g. spin rotation invariance

Boson degeneracy

Degenerate excitations -> distinct condensates possible

$$\alpha | \rightarrow + \beta |$$

ferromagnetic condensate

$$\alpha \mid \longrightarrow + \beta \mid \downarrow \rangle + \beta \mid \downarrow \rangle$$

polar condensate

order parameter

$$\overrightarrow{\phi} = \sum_{\sigma,\sigma'} \langle a^{\dagger}_{\sigma} b_{\sigma'} \rangle \overrightarrow{\tau}_{\sigma\sigma'}$$

Back to fermions



Numerical results (DMFT) excitonic instability:



Undoped system - polar condensate



0

500

Temperature (K)

1000

-2.84

500

Temperature (K)

1000

Spectral density (diagonal elements)



Undoped system - polar condensate



Undoped system - polar condensate



Doping (no cross-hopping)

n-T phase diagram



Competition between AFM super-exchange (PEC) and **double-exchange** (FMEC)

Kuneš, 2014

Doping (no cross-hopping)

n-T phase diagram



PEC - pol FMEC - fe

Finite cross-hopping





Dynamically generated Dresselhaus-Rashba spin-orbit coupling centrosymmetric Hamiltonian, no spin-orbit coupling





Effective model for propagation of doped fermions:

$$H_{\text{eff}} = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \bar{h}_{\alpha\beta} c_{i\alpha}^{\dagger} c_{j\beta} + \text{h.c.} \qquad \bar{h} = t_s \bar{I} - \frac{it_a}{4s^2} \left(\phi^* \wedge \phi \right) \cdot \bar{\sigma} + \frac{1}{2} \left(V_1 \phi + V_2 \phi^* \right) \cdot \bar{\sigma}$$
$$\bar{h}_{\mathbf{k}} = 2t_s \bar{I} C_{\mathbf{k}} + 2V_1 \phi \cdot \bar{\sigma} \begin{cases} C_{\mathbf{k}} & \text{SDW'} \\ iS_{\mathbf{k}} & \text{CSDW'} \end{cases}$$
$$\text{with} \quad C_{\mathbf{k}} = \cos k_x + \cos k_y, \quad S_{\mathbf{k}} = \sin k_x + \sin k_y.$$



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The puzzle of PCCO



"Experience without theory is blind, but theory without experience is mere intellectual play."

Immanuel Kant

$Pr_{0.5}Ca_{0.5}CoO_3\ (PCCO)$



$Pr_{0.5}Ca_{0.5}CoO_3 \left(PCCO\right)$

0



$Pr_{0.5}Ca_{0.5}CoO_3 \left(PCCO\right)$

eg

.....

eg

.....

Exciton = bound pair of e_g electron and t_{2g} hole

 $\beta = xy, zx, yz$ transforms like a pseudovector under O_h operations

Many phases possible - oder a parameter is similar to ³He Bruder and Vollhardt, 1986

Origin of exchange splitting on Pr (LDA+U)

Coupling of Pr 4f¹ spin to p-d orbitals: effective multi-channel Kondo Hamiltonian

$$H^{(n)} = \sum_{\alpha \alpha'} \sum_{mm'} \sum_{i} \mathbf{S} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\alpha \alpha'} J^{(n)}_{i,mm'} c^{\dagger}_{im\alpha} c_{im'\alpha'} + \text{c.c}$$

e_g

Double-perovskites Ba_2YIrO_6 and Sr_2YIrO_6 ? (exp) Cao et al., 2014

Double-perovskites Ba_2YIrO_6 and Sr_2YIrO_6 ? (exp) Cao et al., 2014

No excitonic magnetism!

Pajskr et al., 2013

Conclusions

- Solids close to **spin-state transition** may be unstable towards **condensation of spinful excitons**.
- Excitonic condensation can give rise to **number of phases** with rather diverse properties.
- **Doping** activates generalised double-exchange mechanism with interesting consequences (e.g. spontaneous spin texture)
- There are some promising materials PCCO.

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